

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

OPIC-03 /105 W

----- 124099

R 220825Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL Leningrad

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1828

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP, EAGR, EPAP, UR

SUBJECT: PROPAGANDIST ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SOVIET GRAIN HARVEST
FIGURE

1. Leningrad PROPAGANDIST RELUCTANTLY ACKNOWLEDGED SOVIET GRAIN
HARVEST OF "ABOUT 137 MILLION TONS" IN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22,
PRESENTATION ON STATE OF SOVIET ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE.

2. IN WHAT MIGHT BE TERMED SOVIET DEMOCRACY IN ACTION, A
NUMBER OF LECTURE CIRCUIT REGULARS CONDUCTED ORAL DIALOGUE
WITH PROPAGANDIST WHEN HE FIRST TRIED TO WAFFLE ON SIZE OF
HARVEST. PROPAGANDIST INITIALLY OBSERVED THAT "EXACT SIZE OF
HARVEST NOT ANNOUNCED," WHEREUPON AUDIENCE BEGAN CALLING OUT
"IT'S 137 MILLION TONS*" PROPAGANDIST THEN CAVED IN AND
OBSERVED THAT HIS GUIDANCE ON PRELIMINARY HARVEST FIGURE HAD
BEEN "140 TO 142 MILLION TONS," BUT FINAL FIGURE OF ABOUT 137
MILLION TONS PROBABLY CORRECT. INTERESTINGLY, PROPAGANDIST
CONCLUDED DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT WITH STRAIGHTFORWARD COMMENT
THAT "ACCORDING TO VOICE OF AMERICA, OUR GRAIN HARVEST AMOUNTED
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TO 137 AND A HALF MILLION TONS."

3. COMMENT: VEHEMENCE OF AUDIENCE RESPONSE ON SUBJECT WOULD
INDICATE THAT NOT ONLY THE PROPAGANDISTS LISTEN TO VOA.
NEUBERT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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